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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 6072**
Hiroshi OTA et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2005_1749A
Serial No. 10/556,064 :
Filed November 8, 2005 :

COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS

SUBMISSION OF ENGLISH VERSION OF IPER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

An English language version of the International Preliminary Examination Report is submitted herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroshi OTA et al.

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May 22, 2006



PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

KAWAMIYA, Osamu
Aoyama & Partners, IMP Building
3-7, Shiromi 1-chome
Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi
Osaka 5400001
JAPON

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09 March 2006 (09.03.2006)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference 664426	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/006596	International filing date (day/month/year) 11 May 2004 (11.05.2004)
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD. et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

EP, KR

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Masashi Honda
Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35	Facsimile No.+41 22 338 70 10



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 664426	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/006596	International filing date (day/month/year) 11.05.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 13.05.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of <u>5</u> sheets, as follows: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/006596

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-4, 7-43 as originally filed/furnished

pages* 5, 6, 6/1 received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

nos. 5, 7-19 as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* 1, 3, 4, 6 received by this Authority on 06.12.2004

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the drawings:

sheets fig. 1-38 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☒ the claims, nos. 2

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (specify): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. ☐ In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:
- ☐ restricted the claims.
 - ☐ paid additional fees.
 - ☐ paid additional fees under protest.
 - ☐ neither restricted the claims nor paid additional fees.
2. ☒ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is:
- ☐ complied with.
 - ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

The inventions that are set forth in claims 1 and 3 to 13 relate to inspecting the attitudes of the parts by means of independent sensors that are associated with each of the respective nozzle rows.

The inventions that are set forth in claims 14 to 19 relate to detecting the heights of the parts by means of a single sensor.

4. Consequently, this report has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:
- ☒ all parts.
 - ☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. _____

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1, 3-19	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1, 3-19	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1, 3-19	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP 2003-60397 A (Matsushita Electric Ind. Co., Ltd.), 28 February 2003 & US 2003/0029033 A1 & WO 2003/015491 A1

Document 2: JP 2003/60395 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 28 February 2003 & US 2003/0133603 A1

Document 3: JP 11-68395 A (Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd.), 09 March 1999 (Family: none)

Document 4: JP 2003-124700 A (Nihon Densan Kōparu Kabushiki Kaisha), 25 April 2003 (Family: none)

Document 5: JP 6-216584 A (Juki Corp.), 05 August 1994 (Family: none)

Document 6: JP 2000-156600 A (Matsushita Electric Ind. Co., Ltd.), 06 June 2000 (Family: none)

The inventions set forth in claims 1, 3 and 6 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 and document 2 cited in the international search report. Document 2 discloses the feature of arranging the nozzles upon the head part in ten parallel columns, each of which comprises a single nozzle, and then further providing a sensor for each of the ten columns of nozzles. Therefore,

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing a sensor to each of the columns, as disclosed in document 2, in the device that is disclosed in document 1.

The inventions set forth in claims 4, 5 and 7 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1, document 2 and document 3 cited in the international search report. Document 3 discloses the feature of disposing the sensors at locations that are offset from one another.

The inventions set forth in claims 8 to 13 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1, document 2 and document 4 cited in the international search report. Document 4 discloses an imaging device that comprises two cameras and a half mirror.

The inventions set forth in claims 14 to 19 do not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1, document 5 cited in the international search report and newly cited document 6. Document 5 discloses sensors that are disposed in a manner such that they are inclined towards the direction of movement, and document 6 discloses the feature of detecting the heights of the parts.